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elements having extremities hinged in universal joints, said universal joints being integral delimited by substantially equal and parallel faces and forming four seats, each in correspondence with a side face to accept hinged elements, the improvement comprising: each of said universal joints including a groove along each side of a larger face forming the four seats, said groove proximate to and parallel to a corresponding edge of each said side to cooperate with a folded and inverted edge of a C-sectioned fixing element having a dimension and a shape corresponding to two grooves of two matching said universal joints of the coupled structures to hold united said two matching said universal joints.

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2. (Twice Amended) A composite structure according to Claim 1, wherein the at least two coupled structures are superimposed and, in an inside surface of the larger face of the universal joint having said four seats, forming a fifth seat in which is fixed an extremity of an extendible telescopic tubular element whose other extremity is fixed to an opposed universal joint.

~~Please cancel Claim 4.~~

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5. (Twice Amended) A composite structure according to Claim 1, wherein the C-sectioned fixing element is applied only over each external side face of the universal joints that are on an external surface of the structure.

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7. (Twice Amended) A composite structure according to Claim 1, wherein matching faces of the universal joints of the joined structures include at least one suitable perforation for housing a pivot that prevents any horizontal movement of the universal joints.

8. (Twice Amended) A universal joint of substantially parallelepiped form comprising four hinging seats in a larger face and in correspondence with each side face, each of the seats suitable for fixing an extremity of an extended element, each side of the larger face including a groove proximate to and parallel to an edge of each said side of the larger face, wherein the edge is along each said side face, the groove adapted to cooperate with a folded and inverted edge of a C-sectioned fixing element to unite two matched said universal joints.

Please cancel Claim 11.

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12. (Amended) A composite structure according to Claim 10, wherein the C-sectioned fixing element is applied only over each external side face of the universal joints that are on an external surface of the structure.

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13. (Amended) A composite structure according to Claim 2, wherein the C-sectioned fixing element is applied only over each external side face of the universal joints that are on an external surface of the structure.

15. (Amended) A composite structure according to Claim 2, wherein the C-sectioned fixing element covers a substantial portion of a corresponding side face of superimposed universal joints and forms cut-outs corresponding to the seats for the hinged extended elements.

16. (Amended) A composite structure according to Claim 14, wherein matching faces of the universal joints of the joined structures include at least one suitable perforation for housing a pivot that prevents any horizontal movement of the universal joints.

17. (Amended) A composite structure according to Claim 15, wherein matching faces of the universal joints of the joined structures include at least

one suitable perforation for housing a pivot that prevents any horizontal movement of the universal joints.

Please add the following new Claims.

18. (New) A composite structure including at least two coupled structures, comprising:

each coupled structure including a plurality of pairs of scissors-connected tubular elements having extremities hinged in universal joints, each extremity hinged in one of a plurality of seats of each universal joint;

each of the universal joints including a larger face and a plurality of side faces, and each of the plurality of seats formed in the larger face and one of the side faces; and

each of the universal joints including a plurality of grooves in the larger face, each of the plurality of grooves proximate to and parallel to an edge of the larger face along one of the plurality of side faces, each of the plurality of grooves adapted to cooperate with one of two folded and inverted edges of a C-sectioned fixing element;

wherein each of the two folded and inverted edges of the C-sectioned fixing element cooperates with a groove of one of two matched universal joints to hold united the two matched universal joints.

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19. (New) The composite structure of Claim 18, further comprising an opening in an inside surface of the larger face in which is fixed an extremity of an extendible telescopic tubular element whose other extremity is fixed to an opposed universal joint.

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20. (New) The composite structure of Claim 18, further comprising matching faces of the universal joints including at least one opening for housing a pivot that prevents any horizontal movement between the two matched universal joints.

21. (New) The composite structure of Claim 18, wherein the C-sectioned fixing element covers a substantial portion of the corresponding side faces of matched universal joints, the C-sectioned fixing element including cut-outs corresponding to the seats.

22. (New) The composite structure of Claim 18, wherein the C-sectioned fixing element is applied only over each side face of the universal joints that are on an external surface of the structure.